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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Government have not given and do not propose to give a half-grant to the Tirunelveli Municipality towards the maintenance of the Women and Children Hospital, Tirunelveli, recently constructed by the municipality."

SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM :—" May I know when the Women and Children Hospitals in other municipalities are given half-grant, why discrimination is shown in respect of this hospital? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, half-grants are given only for building construction and equipment and not for maintenance."

*Travelling allowance for village officers*

* 2273 *Q.*—SRI K. PARTHASARATHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the village officers in Kallakurichi taluk, South Arcot district, applying for leave on medical ground, were asked to appear before the District Medical Officer; and

(*b*) if so, whether any travelling allowance for the journey was paid to them?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir. Six village headmen and three karnams applied for leave. As the Tahsildar had sufficient reasons to doubt their bona fides except in the case of one village headman, he sent them to the District Medical Officer for medical examination. Only two headmen appeared before the District Medical Officer. The others continued to be on duty. Of the two village headmen who appeared before the District Medical Officer, one was recommended a month's leave and the other was found physically fit.

" (*b*) No."

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" Sir, is it not a fact that village officers are not paid any salary during their leave period and if so, do Government consider asking them to appear before the Medical Officer travelling over long distances proper and not oppressive? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Sir, from the answer given by me it will be found that the Tahsildar's action was quite proper because it is very significant that out of nine village officers, seven did not turn up before the medical officer."

9–10 a.m. SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHY GOUNDER :—" கிராம உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்கு மெடிக்கல் லீவ் கொடுக்கும்போது சம்பளம் கொடுக்கப்படுகிறதா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" I want notice, Sir."

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SRI M. P. SUBRAMANYAM :—" ஸார், டி.எம்.ஓ. அவர்கள் ஒன்பது பேர்களில் ஒருவருக்கு உடல் சரியில்லை என்று சர்ட்டிபிகேட் கொடுத்திருப்பதாகக் கூறினார். அந்த ஒருவருக்காவது போக்குவரத்து படி கொடுப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்திருக்கிறார்களா ? அதுமாதிரி முறை இருக்கிறதா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" அம்மாதிரி அந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்டில் விதி இல்லை. ஜில்லா போர்டு உபாத்தியாயர்கள் கூட லீவு கேட்டால் மெடிகல் ஆபீசரிடம் போகவேண்டும் என்ற முறையிருக்கிறது."

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" The salary of a village officer is less than Rs. 20 per month and the expenses involved in going to the Headquarters Hospital to appear before the District Medical Officer will be more than Rs. 20 or Rs. 30. That is the reason why many of the village officers do not care to appear before the District Medical Officer. So, will the Government be pleased to issue instructions to the Tahsildar not to insist on the appearance of the village officers before the District Medical Officer especially when they are not paid any leave salary? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Sir, the hon. Member, as a lawyer, knows the trick of resorting to the medical certificate in support of adjournment of cases."

*Indigenous medicinal plants in the Government Estate Gardens, Madras*

* 2274 *Q.*—SRI M. MARIMUTHU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to grow indigenous medicinal plants in the Government Estate Gardens, Madras?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" No, Sir."

*Number of schools in Coimbatore and Malabar districts*

* 2275 *Q.*—SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM (on behalf of Sri A. Senapathi Gounder) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many high schools, middle schools, higher elementary schools and elementary schools are there in Coimbatore and Malabar districts; and

(*b*) the total number of such schools under each category under the supervision of the District Educational Officer, Coimbatore?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) A statement [a] is laid on the table of the House."

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 772 infra.